

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the captioned patent application:

Listing of Claims:

1. -73. (Cancelled)

74. (Previously Presented) An implantable tissue-stimulating prosthesis comprising:

an elongate carrier member having a distal end, a proximal end, and at least one electrode positioned thereon;

at least one electrical conductor extending from one or more of the at least one electrode;

a lead extending from the carrier member and enclosing the at least one electrical conductor; and

a holding member constructed and arranged to radially extend outwardly from the surface of the carrier member to facilitate grasping of the holding member during implantation of the carrier member in a patient, wherein the carrier member comprises one or more longitudinal and lateral slots on its surface, and wherein the holding member is mounted to the carrier member so as to be adjustable along the one or more longitudinal and lateral slots.

75. (Previously Presented) The prosthesis of claim 74, wherein the holding member is positioned adjacent to the proximal end of the carrier member.

76. (Previously Presented) The prosthesis of claim 74, wherein the holding member is an elongate member that extends longitudinally along a length of the carrier member.

77. (Previously Presented) The prosthesis of claim 74, wherein the carrier member has a width; and wherein the holding member extends outwardly from the carrier member surface for a distance defining a height of the holding member.

78. (Previously Presented) The prosthesis of claim 77, wherein the holding member has a width that tapers for a portion of its height away from the carrier member body.

79. (Previously Presented) The prosthesis of claim 74, wherein the holding member has a width that varies along its height to define vertical regions.

80. (Previously Presented) The prosthesis of claim 74, further comprising:
a support member that connects the holding member to the carrier member.

81. (Previously Presented) The prosthesis of claim 80, wherein the support member has a width that is less than a maximum width of the holding member.

82. (Previously Presented) The prosthesis of claim 74, wherein the holding member is removably joined to the carrier member.

83. (Previously Presented) The prosthesis of claim 74, wherein the holding member is rotatably mounted to the carrier member.

84. (Previously Presented) The prosthesis of claim 74, wherein the holding member further comprises:
an indicia that identifies the holding member on the carrier member.

85. (Previously Presented) The prosthesis of claim 74, wherein the holding member is constructed and arranged to be manipulated by the fingers of a surgeon.

86. (Previously Presented) The prosthesis of claim 74, wherein the holding member is constructed and arranged to be manipulated by a surgical tool.

87. (Previously Presented) The prosthesis of claim 74, wherein the tissue-stimulating prosthesis is a cochlear implant system.

88. (Previously Presented) An implantable tissue-stimulating prosthesis comprising:

an elongate carrier member having a distal end, a proximal end, and at least one electrode positioned thereon;

at least one electrical conductor extending from one or more of the at least one electrode;

a lead extending from the carrier member and enclosing the at least one electrical conductor; and

a holding member constructed and arranged to radially extend outwardly from the surface of the carrier member to facilitate grasping of the holding member during implantation of the carrier member in a patient, wherein the holding member further comprises an indicia that identifies the holding member on the carrier member.

89. (Previously Presented) The prosthesis of claim 88, wherein the indicia comprises tactility of the holding member.

90. (Previously Presented) The prosthesis of claim 88, wherein the indicia comprises a relative shape of the holding member and the carrier member.

91. (Previously Presented) The prosthesis of claim 88, wherein the indicia comprises a color of the holding member.

92. (Previously Presented) The prosthesis of claim 88, wherein the holding member is positioned adjacent to the proximal end of the carrier member.

93. (Previously Presented) The prosthesis of claim 88, wherein the holding member is an elongate member that extends longitudinally along a length of the carrier member.

94. (Previously Presented) The prosthesis of claim 88, wherein the carrier member has a width; and wherein the holding member extends outwardly from the carrier member surface for a distance defining a height of the holding member.

95. (Previously Presented) The prosthesis of claim 88, wherein the holding member has a width that varies along its height to define vertical regions.

96. (Previously Presented) The prosthesis of claim 88, further comprising:
a support member that connects the holding member to the carrier member.

97. (Previously Presented) The prosthesis of claim 88, wherein the holding member is removably joined to the carrier member.

98. (Previously Presented) The prosthesis of claim 88, wherein the holding member is rotatably mounted to the carrier member.

99. (Previously Presented) The prosthesis of claim 88, wherein the carrier member comprises one or more longitudinal and lateral slots on its surface, and wherein the holding member is mounted to the carrier member so as to be adjustable along the one or more longitudinal and lateral slots.

100. (Previously Presented) The prosthesis of claim 88, wherein the holding member is constructed and arranged to be manipulated by the fingers of a surgeon.

101. (Previously Presented) The prosthesis of claim 88, wherein the holding member is constructed and arranged to be manipulated by a surgical tool.

102. (Previously Presented) The prosthesis of claim 88, wherein the tissue-stimulating prosthesis is a cochlear implant system.